

based on the case information and the grammatical relation information.

65. The method of claim 64 wherein obtaining case information comprises:

obtaining a hierarchy of case information; and  
obtaining a case hierarchy threshold based on the usefulness of a constituent having that case.

66. The method of claim 65 wherein obtaining grammatical relation information comprises:

obtaining a hierarchy of grammatical relations; and  
obtaining a hierarchy threshold based on a usefulness of grammatical relations in the hierarchy in determining the relationship between the first and second textual inputs.

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REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to clarify that the step of obtaining a set of relations does not require utilizing both case information and grammatical relation information. Rather, the present invention obtains benefits if either case information or grammatical relations are used, alone. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification including block 112 in FIGs. 3 and 4 and the corresponding text as well as page 7, lines 17-21 and line 30 to page 8 line 5; page 17, line 8 to page 18, line 11; page 24, lines 25-30; page 25, lines 24-25; page 34, lines 18-32; and claim 20. Favorable action is respectfully requested.